



**Western
Kansas
Manufacturers
Association**

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**Volume 25, Issue 3
December 2007**



WKMA Sponsors 7th Annual Kansas Workforce Summit

Many who attended the 2007 Kansas Workforce Summit have begun implementation of the "8 Strategic Workforce Development Directions" and have requested "Now What?" Ed Barlow, Futurist and President of Creating the Future, Inc., returns **January 23rd and 24th, 2008** with his colleagues Ron Crouch, Mary Lou Reed, Dr. Frank Fuller and Celina Shands Gradijan building on last year's presentation for the 7th Annual 2008 Kansas Workforce Summit "*Taking Education, Economic Development and Employment to the Next Level: Addressing New Realities in Kansas.*" The Summit will again be held at the Capitol Plaza Hotel in Topeka, Kansas. Both Governor Kathleen Sebelius and Kansas Department of Commerce Secretary David Kerr have been invited to speak!

Registration is limited to 300 participants, and this year's seminar is filling up quickly! The early-bird registration deadline has already passed ~ don't miss the final registration deadline of January 16, 2008. Registration information and forms as well as links to complete Kansas Workforce Summit information are available on our website.

If you have already registered, be sure to reserve your room at the Capitol Plaza Hotel, 1717 SW Topeka Blvd., Topeka, Kansas, 785-431-7200. Mention you are attending the Kansas Workforce Summit to get the special Summit room rates.

2008 3i SHOW Buckles & Hats



Orders are now being filled for the 2008 Commemorative Belt Buckle. To order your buckle, send a check for \$25.00 payable to the WKMA Scholarship Fund. Be sure to indicate the buckle number desired. A printable order form is available online under the Merchandise Tab at www.3ishow.com. Past buckles also continue to be available. Call for availability.

NEW PRODUCT AWARD NOMINATIONS WANTED

The WKMA New Product Award is an award given at the Annual Meeting held each February. If your company has developed a new product you would like considered for this award, please send us a letter of interest along with product information. Don't let another year slip by without **YOUR** product being recognized!

AWARD ENTRY DEADLINE:

January 11, 2008

PRESENTATION:

Annual Meeting
February 15, 2008



Merry Christmas,
Happy New Year, and
may your stockings be
FULL!!



2007-2008 SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

Western Kansas Manufacturers Association continues to support area community colleges, technical schools and universities through the annual scholarship program supported by the sale of the Commemorative 3i SHOW belt buckles. Today's youth more and more depend on scholarships such as ours to make post-secondary education possible. We are pleased to announce the following scholarships have been awarded to freshman students for the 2007-2008 school year. ***Congratulations to these recipients:***

- Barton County Community College \$500.00 scholarship to **Tyla Horacek** of Jetmore, majoring in Business Administration.
- Colby Community College \$500.00 scholarship to **Heath Bieker**. Heath is a graduate of Colby High School enrolled Pre-Engineering.
- Dodge City Community College \$500.00 scholarship to **David Burl**. David is a Cimarron High School graduate studying to become a Mechanical Engineer.
- Garden City Community College \$500.00 scholarship to **Kenneth Sabourin**, enrolled in Engineering. Kenneth is a graduate of Holcomb High School.
- North Central Kansas Technical College \$500.00 scholarship to **Brennan Pfannenstiel**, a Hays High School graduate, enrolled in Welding Technology.
- Southwest Kansas Technical School \$500.00 scholarship to **Jeremy Torres**, a graduate of Deerfield High School. Jeremy is enrolled in Drafting Technology.
- Fort Hays State University \$700.00 scholarship to **Cambria Eickhoff**, a Natoma High School graduate, majoring in Finance.
- Kansas State University \$700.00 scholarship to **Henry Lamm**. Henry graduated from Colby High School and is majoring in Mechanical Engineering.
- University of Kansas \$700.00 scholarship to **Jacklyn Pringle**, a graduate of Great Bend High School. Jacklyn is a Pre-Business major.

WKMA would also like to thank those individuals and businesses who support this scholarship program through the purchase of commemorative 3iSHOW belt buckles. This program would not be possible without your support! Buckles for the 2007 3iSHOW in Garden City are currently available. Visit the Merchandise tab at www.3ishow.com to view this year's buckle and for ordering information, or call (620) 227-8082. Past years' buckles are also available for purchase with an inventory also available online as to which buckle numbers are available for each year.

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Dates to Remember

December 25	MERRY CHRISTMAS!!
January 1	HAPPY NEW YEAR!!
January 11	New Product Award Deadline
January 23	Kansas Workforce Summit Begins, Topeka Capital Plaza
January 25	Exporter of the Year Deadline
February 15	WKMA Annual Meeting
May 7-9	3i SHOW

3i SHOW SPACE BOOKED?



If you haven't reserved your exhibit space for the **2008 3iSHOW in Great Bend** yet, do it today!! Nearly 400 companies have already contracted their space and show space gets more and more limited with every passing day!!

The 2008 3i SHOW will be the first year the show will be held **Wednesday through Friday**, and we look forward to a great turnout! Member and exhibitor input is critical as we continue to fine-tune show dates/days. Please email any comments you may have!

2008 Governor's Exporter of the Year Award

Nominations Now Being Accepted by KITCC (Nomination form on the reverse side)

For each of the past 19 years, an exceptional Kansas company has been selected to receive the Governor's Exporter of the Year Award for creating jobs and contributing to the Kansas economy through excellence in conducting international trade.

International business is vital to the Kansas economy. In 2006, Kansas companies exported over \$8.6 billion in goods and services. One way to highlight the importance of exporting to our state is to recognize those companies that distinguish themselves as "world class" competitors.

If your company would like to be considered, or if you would like to nominate a company for this award, please submit the nomination form on the reverse side.

Exporter of the Year Process and Benefits:

- Kansas companies (except prior recipients) are eligible for the award. Chambers of commerce or other organizations may nominate companies they feel should be considered.
- Evaluation criteria include: number and/or percentage increase in jobs due to international activities; innovations in global marketing; number of countries exported to; effective use of international distributors; long-range international strategies and prospects for future growth and commitment to their community.
- The Kansas International Trade Coordinating Council (KITCC) reviews nominations, may ask for additional information and develops a list of finalists.
- In April, KITCC members conduct on-site visits to the finalists and will compare company activities based on presentations made by each finalist. In May, the KITCC makes a recommendation to the Governor for the recipient of the award.
- The Governor presents the award to the winner at a formal ceremony and gives recognition to all the finalists. The Governor makes an on-site visit to the recipient company to meet with employees who have contributed to efforts that led to the award.
- Benefits to the finalists include statewide recognition of their company, their products and accomplishments. It is also an opportunity for the finalists to give recognition to their employees and for community leaders to acknowledge companies contributing to economic development through international trade.

2008 Kansas Governor's Exporter of the Year Award

Candidate Nomination Form

Please complete and submit by mail or fax **NO LATER THAN JANUARY 25, 2008** to:

Kansas International Trade Coordinating Council
 c/o Kansas Department of Commerce, Trade Development Division
 1000 S.W. Jackson St., Suite 100
 Topeka, KS 66612-1354
 Phone: (785) 296-4027 Fax: (785) 296-5263
 TTY: (785) 296-3487

Company:					
Address:					
City:		State:		Zip:	
Phone: ()		Fax: ()		E-mail:	
Contact:			Title:		
CEO:					
Year Established:		Year Began Exporting:		Number of Kansas Employees:	
Export Sales as % of Total Sales:	Increase or Decrease % in Export Sales:	2006-2007	2005-2006	2004-2005	2004-2007
Description of Product or Service:					
Public or Private Corporation/Company:					
Address of Parent Corporation (if applicable):					
Person/Organization Submitting Nomination:					
Address:			Phone:		

KITCC is an independent council that operates with the facilitating assistance of the Kansas Department of Commerce. Council activities are designed to:

- Provide a forum for the exchange of ideas among international business professionals throughout the state.
- Identify and recognize for-profit Kansas corporations that excel in international business through the Governor's Exporter of the Year Award.
- Enhance Kansas' international business by showcasing successful Kansas exporters as role models.
- Provide secondary and post-secondary educational institutions with up-to-date information about international activities of successful Kansas firms.
- Serve as advisory group to develop strategies for further internationalization of business and industry in the state of Kansas.

See the Kansas Department of Commerce Web site for more information: www.kansascommerce.com.

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